NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest 765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, www.fs.usda.gov/colville

Contact: Franklin Pemberton, 509.684.7177 July 30, 2013

Colville Resource Advisory Committee Seeking Forest Improvement Projects

Colville, WA - Colville National Forest Officials are inviting individuals, non-profit organizations, and local governments to submit applications for projects that would improve Colville National Forest (CNF) lands and the economies of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties. There is \$214,000 available for this year's projects.

Projects must be on or benefit National Forest System Lands by enhancing forest ecosystems, restoring land health and water quality, or improving the maintenance of existing roads or facilities. Some past completed projects include culvert replacement to help fish passage, campground road maintenance to prevent erosion and forest thinning projects to reduce fire danger and improve forest health.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for local communities to come together to promote the stewardship of forest lands in the tri-county area. These projects will not only improve the health of our watersheds, but create jobs and improve the economic conditions in our local communities," said Laura Jo West, Colville National Forest Supervisor.

To submit a project application contact Franklin Pemberton, Colville Resource Advisory Committee Coordinator at (509) 684-7177 or by email at fpemberton@fs.fed.us All project applications and supporting paperwork must be received by close of business Friday, September 2, 2013.

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Funding is made available through Title II funds under the reauthorized Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Public Law 110-343) and is made available to Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties. Funding is based on the percentage of land in federal ownership, timber receipt payments, and per capita income. Additional information on the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act can be found at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/pts/home

For more information on the Colville Resource Advisory Committee or on how to submit a project application for fiscal year 2013 project funding, please contact Franklin Pemberton, Colville RAC Coordinator at (509)-684-7177.

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